

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT RECOGNIZES DAVID GLASGOW FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVES

Washington, DC – November 13, 2007—Under Secretary for Rural Development Thomas C. Dorr announced the selection of David Glasgow for the 2007 Annual USDA Rural Development High Mark award. The High Mark award is given annually to the employee who best exemplifies the spirit of USDA Rural Development's national outreach and communications initiatives.

“David Glasgow has been instrumental in establishing a statewide communication and outreach strategy to help rural Tennesseans participate in variety of USDA Rural Development economic and community development programs,” Dorr said. “David's efforts expanded the level of public understanding on ways rural Americans can increase their economic opportunities and improve their quality of life.”

Glasgow, USDA Rural Development's public information coordinator in Tennessee, was responsible for all aspects of the agency's public relations efforts during 2007. He was particularly instrumental in setting up a six-state demonstration of Distance Learning and Telemedicine programs funded by USDA Rural Development. The demonstration was hosted by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis and included health care providers at clinics and hospitals in Colorado, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Tennessee and Virginia. Former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns also participated in the program from Washington, D.C.

Glasgow also was recognized for his tireless work in promoting USDA Rural Development's loan and grant programs. Last year, USDA Rural Development invested \$349 million in Tennessee for housing, business development and critical community and technology infrastructure.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development has invested nearly \$91 billion since 2001 for equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. More than 1.6 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.